



*Producers of Quality
Nonprescription Medicines and
Dietary Supplements for Self-Care*

CONSUMER HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
Formerly Nonprescription Drug Manufacturers Association

September 20, 1999

Docket Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 98N-0359: Program Priorities in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN

The Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) requests a 30 day extension for submitting comments, in response to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) notice that appeared in the September 1, 1999 issue of the Federal Register, (Vol. 64, No. 169, page 47845). These stakeholder comments are to assist the FDA in establishing program priorities in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) for the year 2000.

Founded in 1881, CHPA represents producers of quality nonprescription medicines and dietary supplements, including over 200 member companies across the manufacturing, distribution, supply and service sectors of the self-care industry,

The reason for this 30 day extension period is to allow CHPA sufficient time to obtain member input, and to discuss among other trade associations issues related to establishing CFSAN's program priorities. CFSAN is an organization with many members and external constituencies and the priorities for one constituency will likely affect those of others. By allowing sufficient time for different trade associations to dialogue on the priorities, it is likely that a more consolidated view will emerge. Thirty days is simply too short a time to realistically develop our comments without foregoing inter-constituency review.

... continued

98N-0359

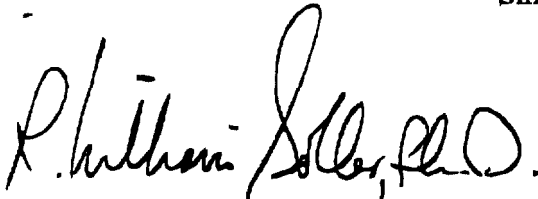
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In our comments of August 20, 1999 related to Stakeholder Input on **CFSAN's Overall Strategic Plan for Dietary Supplements**, we asked that FDA extend it's notification process to allow **sufficient time** for preparation prior to **CFSAN-announced** meetings. Allowing a reasonable comment period for published requests for comments is as important, since little is gained by pushing ~~the~~ comment period to a hasty conclusion.

Your consideration of this matter is appreciated, We believe our need for additional time is applicable to the **needs** of each of **CFSAN's** external constituencies.

Sincerely yours,



R. William Soller, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and
Director of Science & Technology



Leila Saldanha, Ph.D., R.D.
Vice President - **Nutritional Sciences**

Copy: Donald J. **Carrington**, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (**HFS-666**)



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September 20, 1999

TO:

Joseph A. Devitt; Dr Beth Tetley; Donald Carrington

FROM:

Deila G. Saldanha

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